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Attorney Docket No.: VN418RI

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In Re Reissue Application of: Shirani, et al.)

Application No.: 09/286,679)

Filed: April 1, 1999)

For: NETWORK LINK DETECTION AND)
GENERATION)

Examiner: Ton, D.

Group Art Unit: 2732

TC-16-00
AUG 11 2000
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Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Attention: Box Missing Parts
Washington, D.C. 20231

AMENDMENT

Dear Sir:

In response to the office action mailed February 1, 2000, please examine the above-identified application in view of the following amendment and remarks. A petition for extension of time accompanies this amendment and is hereby requested.

IN THE CLAIMS:

Sub 14. (amended) In a network having at least a first data source/sink and a second data source/sink coupled together by a physical medium, a method for determining at least one protocol capability of the second data source/sink, comprising:

placing first data pulses onto the physical medium, electrical characteristics of the first data pulses indicating a first protocol capability of the first source/sink;

receiving the first data pulses in the second data source/sink;

transmitting second data pulses onto the physical medium from the second data source/sink, wherein electrical characteristics of the second data pulses indicate the first protocol capability when the second data source/sink has the first protocol capability, wherein electrical characteristics of the second data pulses indicate a second protocol capability when the second data source/sink has the second protocol capability;

detecting whether the second pulses indicate the first protocol capability or the second protocol capability; and